



355871

July 8, 1971

Roger Ganobeik/Division of Legal Services

Thomas G. McSwiggin, Manager, Variance Section/Division of Water Pollution Control

THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO. - Chicago

✓Petition for Variance
Mercury Regulations

The following constitutes a report and recommendation on the petition filed by the Sherwin-Williams Company, 11541 S. Champlain Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60628. The petition requests relief from the Mercury Regulations R 70-5. The petition proposes to reduce or eliminate mercury content of raw materials and secondarily proposes the installation of devices and mechanisms necessary to prevent mercury emanating from other sources getting into the wastewater which is discharged into the City of Chicago sewers. The petition is not specific in the proposal and does not provide sufficient data on which to evaluate the proposal.

Contact by the Variance Section with the Surveillance Section in the Chicago Office indicates that Sherwin-Williams Company has been visited by the Surveillance Section and they are preparing notes and a report on their visit. They report, however, verbally that a sample which represents approximately 90% of the waste flow emanating from the plant to contain mercury at a concentration of 1.7 ppb. This concentration exceeds the limitation of 0.5 ppb established by the Mercury Regulations.

Recommendation:

The Variance Section of the Division of Water Pollution Control recommends denial of the variance requested by the Sherwin-Williams Company. In addition, the Variance Section recommends the company proceed with the installation of equipment sufficient to remove mercury from the discharge or to proceed with the elimination of mercury use in the plant.

The Variance Section will make additional comment on this petition should additional material or information become available.

Thomas G. McSwiggin
Manager, Variance Section/DWPC

cc: -Surveillance Section/Spfld.
-Surveillance Section/Chicago, Ship Canal Sub-unit

TGM/vba